

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the previously amended second paragraph on page 11 of the application as filed with the following paragraph:

5 In one embodiment, UI 205 (e.g., running as an application on a customer's 201 computer), configuration engine 210 and supplier system 220 are all remotely located with respect to each other. The coupling between such remote blocks is provided by a conventional on-line connection (e.g., an integrated services digital network line, a digital subscriber line, a T1 line, a cable line, or other known on-line connection-types). In an
10 alternative embodiment, configuration engine 210 can be locally located with respect to UI 205, or with respect to supplier system 220. Likewise, UI 205 can be local to supplier system 220, and remote to configuration engine 210. The coupling between the local blocks can be provided by a conventional hardwire connection, or alternatively, by a conventional wireless connection. Inventory library 230 is typically local to
15 configuration engine 210, and the coupling between the two is conventional. However, inventory library 230 may also be remote from configuration engine 210. Those skilled in the art will recognize various other configurations that may arise depending on the nature of the business involved and the relationship between the parties involved (e.g., consumer, retailer, wholesaler, manufacturer, distributor, or vendor to manufacturer).

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Please replace the last paragraph on page 18 of the application as filed with the following paragraph:

In one embodiment, this accommodation (e.g., in the form of the requested availability date and an increased price) is received by the configuration application 315.

5 The configuration application 315 can then update the configuration BOM 310 with the received availability date, and the pricing BOM 325 with the received price.

Alternatively, this accommodation (e.g., in the form of the requested availability date and an increased price) is received directly by the configuration BOM 310 (which is updated with the received availability date) and the pricing BOM 310-325 (which is updated with the received price). Either way, the customer can view the accommodation via the UI

10 205.